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To the

Kings Moſt Excellent Majeſtie,

The humble Peticion of William Courten *Eſquire, Grandchild and Heyre of Sr.* William Courten *deceaſed, and* George Carew *Eſquire Adminiſtrator of the Goods and Chattells of Sr.* William Courten, *on the behalf of themſelves, and ſeverall others, your Majeſties good ſubjects of England.*

Sheweth,

THat the Eaſt-India Companie of the Netherlands, did in the yeare 1643. take the two Ships *Bona Eſperanza* and *Henery bona Adventura* of *London*, with all their Goods and Marchandize, upon trading voyages, in the Eaſt-Indies; and alſo all the Bookes, writings, Bills of Lading and other Papers, converting the ſame to their own uſe, contrary to all Juſtice, and common Right, which proved to the dammages of your Peticioners, and other propriators *one Hundred and fifty Thouſand Pound Sterling* and upwards, as by the ſeverall depoſitions, examinations and reports of the Judge of the High Court of Admirality, and your Majeſties Advocates Generall appeares.

That in prosecution of Justice and reparation, your Majestie was gratiously pleased particularly to owne the said cause, in a more especiall manner in the Treaty *Anno* 1662. then all other damages of that nature, to your subjects, in regard of the many services and sufferings, of *Sr. William Courten*, and others Intrested, that had lent *one Hundred and Twenty five Thousand Ponnd Sterling* to his late Majestie, at usuall Interest, towards the ordinary charge of the Crowne, before the yeare 1640, which remains yet unsatisfied, as by the Tallies and Assignements in the Exchequer appeares.

That during the late Warr *Anno* 1672. your Majestie most graciously appeared againe, concerning the damages of the said Ships, holding your self obliged, in Justice, and honour, to get satisfaction, from the principall Offenders for the same. As by the orders of the Councell Table, and reports, of the *Committe of Lords*, intimating the merrits of the said cause to your Majestie accordingly.

That notwithstanding all the orders, procedings, and speciall grants, under the great Seale of *England*, concerning the said Shipps, Goods, and Fraights, the Hollanders doe still pretend, they are not obliged to give any satisfaction for the same, being made a debt incumbant upon the Crowne, by the last Treaty at London, whereby *eight Hundred Thousand Pattacones* are to be paid unto your Ma-

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Majeſtie by the States Generall, at foure equall payments, for which the Crowne of *Spaine* ſtands obliged, that they ſhall be paid accordingly.

Your Peticioners doe therefore moſt humbly pray, that your Majeſtie *would be moſt graciouſly pleaſed, to aſſigne ſome part, and proportion of the ſaid Money payable to your* Majeſtie *by the States, unto your Peticioners in Satisfaction of the ſaid damages, and loſſes, concerning the ſaid Shipps as aforeſaid, or to grant them, ſome aſſignment, upon any branch of your* Majeſties *revenue in liew thereof,*

And your Peticioners, ſhall ever pray, &c.